8 new Prep students began on Tuesday with Mrs Evers. (Back: L - R Isaiah Tolley Elijah Sandeman Tegan McKay Phoebe Jones Front: Kaden Turnbull Jeremiah Low Will Patterson Rachel Gundry)

THE BLESSING OF A PEACEFUL HOME (From “My Christian Daily” 25 Nov 2012 Bernie Dymet - Christianity works)

If God offered you anything you wanted in this world, anything at all, what would you ask for?


After the basic provisions of air to breathe, water to drink, food to eat and a roof over our heads, having Peace in my life is right up there.

God wants us to have Peace. In fact God’s heart is for us to have Peace in our homes. God blesses a peaceful home. And yet many a home is torn by strife, discontent, discord and dissension.

Peace requires a special sort of wisdom. At the beginning of Proverbs is an interesting statement on wisdom.

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge and only fools despise wisdom and instruction (Proverbs 1:7)

I (Bernie) had an interesting email from a rebel fighter in a war torn part of Africa a while back. He had just listened to a radio program of ours about the fear of God. This is what he said . . .

“Recently I was attending a Peace Conference. While I was in my hotel room I turned on the radio. As I was listening to your program I realized that without the fear of God in our hearts, there will be no peace. No peace at all. These 8 minutes were enough to take me to a turning point in my life as well as in my peace effort in this region. I left that room as a changed man. I’ve been on the battlefield for 13 years now. I don’t know how many people have died because of my gun, but what I know is that I have decided to lay down my arms”.

What an amazing testimony! But do you get it? Peace comes when we fear God. That’s what the Bible says and that’s what this man discovered. Peace comes when we lay down our guns, stop shooting, because deep in our hearts we’ve experienced the fear of God. A right fear, a good fear a fear that brings us to the point of deciding to live our lives His way, the right way. Wow, what an incredible blessing! Peaceful habitation, secure dwelling place, Quiet resting places.

EARN & LEARN RESOURCES

Thank you again for all who participated in the school’s earn and learn competition last year. The final total of stickers was 9764.

This was a fabulous result and allowed the school the opportunity to purchase some new resources.

These resources included a paint set of 14 different colours, a LEGO system, wheels, and bricks set, tee ball rubber bases and a 700cm Parachute.

I am confident that they will be put to good use. (See picture above).
PLEASE PRAY THIS WEEK for the BIGNOUX BODNO BURT and both of the BROWN Families.

WELCOME TO ALL THE NEW FAMILIES TO OLIVET, a total of 17 new students! We have started the year on 88 students, up by one from Census last year. We welcome Mrs Elissa Weightman to Olivet as our new Secondary LOTE Teacher who will be teaching the students Indonesian Language. Primary students will continue to learn Auslan Sign Language with Mrs Chapman.

SWIMMING PROGRAMS TERM 1
Term 1 Primary Sport will be a 7-week swimming program starting next Tuesday 5 Feb running through till 19 March. The ELC hits the water at 11.30 followed by Delta at 12.00 and Gamma at 12.30. Parents, who are available, are invited to come along. Students will need to bring bathers and T-shirt, towel, plastic bag (for the wet things) and goggles if needed. They will travel by College bus to Everyone Health and Fitness in Castlemaine and return approx. one hour after the scheduled starting time. The swimming will be subsidized by the school but a $15.00 cost per student will be levied to parent accounts.

PERMISSION FORM FOR SWIMMING PRIMARY
I give permission for my child________________ to attend the Swimming Program to Everyone Health and Fitness during Term 1.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

Secondaries will have their swimming program on Fridays commencing tomorrow (1st Feb) for 3 weeks. Please bring bathers and T-shirts and board shorts, towel and plastic bag for wet items.

The House Swimming Sports will be held at Harcourt Pool on Friday 22 February. (Week 4)

PERMISSION FORM FOR SWIMMING (SECONDARY)
I give permission for my child________________ to attend the Swimming Program on Fridays during Term 1.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

FIRST SCRIPTURE FOR THE YEAR
Psalm 34:1 - 8 accompanied by the character trait of Joyfulness

ELC HELPERS
We are putting a call out for helpers who would like to assist with the reading program at the start of each school day. If you would like to be a part of the roster for term 1, please see Geoff Treloar or leave a message at the office.

SILVER APPLE AWARDS FOR CONVENTION
The Bible Bowl Book for Study for this year’s Victorian Student Convention in Term 4 is Jonah. I want to encourage all of the Year 9 and 10 students (all of whom will be involved in the Bible Bowl competition) to get started and to see if they can memorise Jonah one chapter at a time for Convention.

REMINDER OF TERM DATES
Term 1: Tues 29 Jan - Thurs 28 March
Term 2: Wed 17 April - Fri 28 June
Term 3: Mon 15 July - Fri 20 Sept
Term 4: Mon 7 Oct - Thurs 12 Dec

COLOURED PENCILS AND LEAD PENCILS
Mrs Donaldson is collecting used and new coloured pencils and lead pencils for PNG. If you are donating used pencils, if you can, please sharpen them first. Thank you.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONVENTION
ISC 2013 will be held at Central Missouri University in Warrensburg, Missouri from May 25 - 30 this year. If there are any students who are interested in going to ISC as a part of the team from the South Pacific, Mrs Fisher (SCEE) would like to hear from them as soon as possible. A Post-Convention Tour will be planned, depending on numbers, and this will be sent out with options to interested students. Please let Mr Chapman know of your interest and he will let Mrs Fisher know.

HARCOURT APPLEFEST
This is to be held on Saturday 9 March. It is family-oriented event and children participating in the competitions held will provide added interest. There are two competition entry forms included here:
Special Apple Art Competition
Junior Baking Competition
Further information is available at the website www.harcourtapplefest.org.au
Entry forms may also be downloaded from this website.